ing etc. constitute the rural activities. The State Governments have been advised to take steps to integrate their sericulture programmes with rural development programmes. Further, the Central Silk Board advises the State Governments about the modern sericulture practices and encourages them by providing the necessary Research & Development, Extension and Training support. Besides, the CSB arranges supply of mulberry cuttings/saplings to the State Governments at subsidised cost for expansion of sericulture in new areas

(c) to (f). In order to boost the silk production in the country, the Central Silk Board is supplementing the efforts of various State Govts. by providing necessary support through its country-wide network of Research, Extension & Training units. Further, consequent on launching of the World Bank/Swiss assisted National Sericulture Project in the country and introduction of sericulture in non-traditional/new areas, the Central Silk Board has expanded/strengthened additional/supporting infrastructures to meet the requirements of various States including Rajasthan for promotion of silk production.

The details of new units and units strengthened under National Sericulture Project in Rajasthan are as under:-

1. Silkworm Seed Production Centre, Udaipur.

2. Four Technical Service Centres, one each at Jhadol, Dhariwad, Banswara and Garhi.

3. Project area incharge office at Udaipur.

4. One P2 farm at Fatehnagar(Existing REC converted as P2 farm)

5. One Technical Service Centre at Kota(likely to be shifted to other location)

6. One Demonstration cum Training Centre at Dabok.

7. One Farmers Training School at Udaipur.

The project envisages development of 2000 acres of land under mulberry plantation for production of 60 metric tonnes of raw silk.

Widening of Howarah-Kharagpur Strech of N.H. No. 6

5066. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to develop and widen the Howrah-Kharagpur strech of National Highway No. 6?.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) Development of National Highways is a continuous process and improvement works are taken up keeping in view the existing conditions of the National Highways, traffic intensity, inter-se priority on All India basis and availability of funds. Seven works amounting to Rs. 762.45 lakhs have been sanctioned for strengthning of the Howrah-Kharagpur section of National Highway No. 6 during the last three years (1988-89 to 1990-91).

In addition, strengthening work from km. 99 to km. 106 has been recently senctioned during 1991-92. Also technical appraisal for strengthening of reach from km. 34 to km. 37 has been approved.

[*Translation*]

Production of Silk

5067. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had constituted a committee for formulating a long term policy on tea export;

(b) whether the committee had submitted its report;

(c) if so, the recommendations thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to implement those recommendations; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e). The Committee constituted to formulate the long-term strategy and plan for tea including increase in export of tea had made 133 recommendations regarding all round developments of tea industry. The Working Group formed by the Central Government to go into the recommendations of the Committee finally recommended 84 recommendations for implementation such as regular search for reduction in the production cost of tea, active involvement of State Govt. on various aspects related to tea, strengthening of Tea Board, detailed market research on a regionwise basis etc. These recommendations have since been accepted by Govt. for implementation and Tea Board has been advised to take follow-up action thereon.

Export of Leather to Germany

5068. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great demand of leather from Germany;

(b) if so, the total demand thereof during the year 1991-92 and the quantity of leather actually exported; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the leather export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) While there is no estimate of the total demand of leather in Germany, that country was our biggest market in 1990-91 for leather and leather products. During 1991-92 upto December, 1991, our exports of leather and leather products to Germany were Rs. 478.09 crores (Quantitative figures are not available).

(c) The Government policy is to progressively displace the exports of raw materials by value-added leather products and towards this end, exports of raw hides and skins and semi-finished leather have already been banned. Export of finished leather, though allowed at present, is subject to an export duty of 10%.

Operation of Private Buses without STA Permits in Delhi

5069. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 762 on 28 February, 1992 and state:

(a) the details of the instructions given to Delhi Administration to deal with the illegally operating buses in Delhi on DTC routes without permits; and

(b) the total number of such buses and the number out of them booked during each month of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT